

of the
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION
of the
LIBERTY
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
held with
SALEM CHURCH
COLUMBIA COUNTY, ARK.,
Sept. 11th---14th, 1858.



MOUNT LEBANON, LA.

Printed at the office of the "Louisiana Baptist."

1858.

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MINUTES

of the Thirteenth Annual Session of the

LIBERTY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

held with Salem Church,

Columbia co., Ark, on Saturday before the 2d Sabbath in

Sept., 1858.

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Saturday, Sept. 11, 1858.

At an annual meeting of the Liberty Baptist Association, held with Salem church, in Columbia county, Ark., commencing on Saturday before the 2d Sabbath in September, A.D. 1858, after the Introductory Sermon, delivered at the stand by Bro. S. T. Cobb, according to previous appointment, from the 16th verse of the 28th chapter of Isaiah, to an attentive and orderly congregation, after one hour's recess, the delegates assembled at the house. Elder Jesse Hartwell, D. D., the former Moderator, being absent, (and removed out of the bounds of this Association), the house was called to order by the former clerk and on motion and a second, Eld. S. T. Cobb was called to the chair to act as Moderator "pro tem." After singing and prayer by the Moderator, letters from the different churches composing this body, were called for; from all of which, letters were handed in and read, and delegates' names enrolled, as appears in the table of statistics.

On motion, called for petitionary letters from sister churches, of our order, for admission into our body; whereupon, Mount Olive Church, by her delegates, H. K. Elkins and Wm. Davis, presented a petitionary letter which was read, the church received, and the right hand of fellowship extended by the Moderator in behalf of the Association.

The Association then went into the selection of Moderator and Clerk, which resulted in the election of Eld. S. T. Cobb, as Moderator, and B. R. Matthews, as Clerk.

On motion, visiting ministers of our order, are invited to seats with us:

On motion, the following committees were appointed, to wit:

1. "To Arrange Preaching"---Brethren James Moore and Nathan Yarbrough, with the deacons and pastor of Salem Church.
2. "On Arrangements"---Brethren John A. Meek, James S. Kelly, and Benjamin R. Matthews.
3. "On Documents"---Eld. J. P. Everett, and brethren Wm. H. Hill, W. B. Summers, and John W. Crisp.
4. "On Temperance"---Eld. B. F. Gray, and brethren John H. Carleton, and E. Cates.
5. "On Sabbath Schools"---Eld. G. W. Schoggin, Wm. Yarbrough, and James H. Capers.
6. "On Finance"---Eld. A. L. Hay, and brethren S. Harrell, and G. W. Hays.
7. "On Education"---Eld. T. G. Freeman, and brethren J. H. Carleton and Hezekiah Bussey.
8. "On Foreign Missions"---Eld. T. G. Freeman, and brethren Lewis Cammack, and Bird Warren.
9. "On Home Missions"---Elds. A. L. Hay and J. P. Everett, and brethren H. Bussey and J. B. Hawkins.

On motion, called for correspondence, and received from our sister, the Red River Association, a corresponding messenger in the person of Eld. A. J. Smith, bearing a minute. And also Elds. John Aaron and S. Harris came forward and presented a letter from the Columbia Association, which was read and the right hand of fellowship extended to all of said brethren, by the Moderator, in behalf of this Association.

On motion and a second, Elds. Edward Haynes, of the Red River Association, and W. R. Traywick, of the Bartholomew Association, are both received and welcomed as corresponding messengers from each of their respective Associations, and the right hand of fellowship extended to said brethren by the Moderator, in behalf of this Association.

Eld. W. R. Traywick presents himself as agent of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, to raise funds and solicit subscriptions for the erection of a Male College in this State, to be under the control of the said Convention. ✓

On motion, returned correspondence as follows:

1. To the Red River Association---Eld. T. G. Freeman, and brethren N. Yarbrough, E. Mosley, and T. C. Meredith; brother Freeman to write the letter.
2. To the Columbia Association---Eld. S. T. Cobb and brethren James S. Kelly and Joel M. Cobb; Brother Kelly to write the letter.
3. To the Bartholomew Association---Eld. A. L. Hay, and he to write the letter.

On motion, after prayer by Eld. G. W. Schoggin, the Association adjourned until Monday morning, nine o'clock.

Sunday, Sept. 12.

Prayer meeting in the early part of the morning, at the stand. The missionary Sermon delivered at 11 o'clock a.m., by Eld. John P. Everett, according to previous appointment, from the latter part of the 9th verse of the 11th chapter of Isaiah. At the close of which, after a few remarks by Eld. A. L. Hay upon the subject of Missions, which were more particularly confined to the preaching of the gospel to the Cherokee Indians in the Nation, and to the black population among us, a public and joint collection was taken up for these two latter objects, which amount to \$86.75 cash, and \$20.00 on subscription.

At 2 o'clock, Eld. Edward Haynes preached from the 10th verse of the 11th chapter of Isaiah. On Saturday and Sunday nights we had preaching at two or three places in the neighborhood.

Monday morning, 9 o'clock

The Association met pursuant to adjournment, and after singing, and prayer by Eld. A. J. Smith, proceeded to business.

Bro. Peter Fair and Eld. J. Q. Burnett came forward and presented themselves as corresponding messengers from the Columbia Association, to each of whom the right hand of fellowship was extended by the Moderator, in behalf of the Association.

The Committee of Arrangements made report, which was received and adopted, and committee discharged.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board came forward by the Chairman, and made the following report, which was received and adopted, to wit:

Dear brethren of the Association, your Executive Board have not been able to have a Missionary in the field, for the last associational year, for the reason that we have been unable to procure the services of a minister that we considered suitable to the task. But, dear brethren, much to our satisfaction, we have been enabled to engage the services of our beloved and worthy brother B. F. Gray, for the next associational year, provided we can raise the sum of \$500.00 for him. This, brethren, is the best we can do; and we, on account of Brother Gray's qualifications, his christian piety, and godly conversation, consider him quite adequate to the task. And we do hope that the brethren (delegates) will come forward and make known the amount that they are willing to pledge their churches for, to be paid in and sent up to the next Association.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

N. Yarbrough, Chairman

PLEDGES FOR HOME MISSIONS

Churches of the First District.	Churches of the Second District
Anden, \$	Lisbon \$10 00
Ion Hill. 5 00	Eldorado 70 00 ←
Pleasant Grove. . .	Rehoboth 30 00
Pleasant Ridge. . . 5 00	Holly Grove.
Salom. 30 00	Union 10 00
Antioch 5 00	Hopewell No. 1 . . . 10 00
Republican.	Spring Hill, Ark. . . 10 00
	Cane Creek. 10 00
<hr/> \$45 00	<hr/> \$150 00

Churches of the

Third District.

Spring Hill, La.	\$50 00	Meridian.	20 00
Gilgal.	5 00	Mount Olive	
Mount Zion.	5 00		
Hopewell No. 2.	10 00		
Liberty.	5 00		
			<u>\$95 00</u>

INDIVIDUAL PLEDGES

T. C. Meredith.	\$ 5 00
Bird Warren.	10 00
M. J. Wilson.	10 00
Lee Morgan.	5 00
A. C. Waller.	5 00
Wm. Franklin.	5 00
A. T. Davis	5 00
Mrs. Jane McKellar.	5 00
Miss Mary J. Reed	5 00
Mr. B. T. Horn.	5 00

\$60 00

RECAPITULATION.

Churches 1st Dist.	\$ 45 00
" 2d Dist.	150 00
" 3d "	95 00
Individual Subs.	<u>60 00</u>

Sum total to be paid in at
the next Association. . . \$350 00

On motion, Eld. John P. Everett, and brethren James Moore and T. McFadden, are appointed corresponding messengers to the Concord Association; bro. Everett to write the letter.

On motion, Eld. Wm. C. Johnson, of Eldorado, is appointed to preach the Introductory Sermon, on Saturday, at our next Association, and Eld. A. W. Johnson, of Spring Hill, La., his alternate.

On motion, Eld. T. G. Freeman, of Camden, is appointed to preach the Missionary Sermon, on Sabbath, at 11 o'clock a. m., at our next Association; and Eld. Wm. S. Meek, of Spring Hill, Ark., his alternate.

On motion, the Clerk is instructed to have 1000 copies of these Minutes printed at the office of the Louisiana Baptist at Mount Lebanon, La., and that he receive \$20 00 for his services.

On motion, the Clerk is instructed to have the Constitution, Rules of Decorum, and Abstract of Faith of this Association, printed with these minutes..

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS

On motion, the report of the committee on Home Missions was received and adopted, and committee discharged; and the report is as follows, to wit:

We, your committee on Home Missions, would make the following report: Jesus, our Great Teacher, has shown us the importance of Home Missions in his command to his disciples, to begin at Jerusalem. There is very much to be done within the bounds of the Liberty Association; and we recommend that one missionary be employed to give his entire time, especially among the most destitute.

But Home Missions embrace a wide field. The 400,000 Indians in our Territories are included. This Association has a native preacher among the Cherokees, and we urge his continuance.

A. L. Hay, Chairman

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS

On motion, called for the report of the committee on Foreign Mission, which is handed in, read and received; and, on motion, adopted, and committee discharged. Said report is as follows:

The committee on Foreign Missions beg leave to report: That we rejoice in the signs of the times, betokening a speedy accomplishment of those glorious predictions in the

word of God which relate to the universal prevalence of truth, and the certain subjection of the world to the reign of the Messiah. It has come to pass in those days, literally that men are running to and fro, and that knowledge is increasing, nay, flying with the speed of lightning from nation to nation. It is surely cause of joy and hope to the Christian in the exercise of faith in the promises of God, that simultaneously with that wonderful achievement of human genius the laying of the Atlantic telegraph--thus bringing the different nations of the earth into immediate communication with each other--God has blessed the churches of our land with such a revival of religion, and such an ingathering of souls to the fold of the great Shepherd, as was never witnessed before. The true Christian can hardly fail to see the cheering indication of Divine Providence in such coincidences, and anticipate the speedy fulfillment of that precious promise that a nation shall be born in a day. Our faith that the glorious gospel of the Son of God shall universally prevail, that all the nations of the earth shall be blessed with its light, cheered by its precious promises, and sustained by the hopes which it inspires, is based upon the immutable word of Jehovah, and strengthened and confirmed by the signs of the times, in which we are permitted to live. Let us remember that the great commission of our ascending Saviour to his disciples, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature," is still binding in all its original force, upon all his followers; and let us do our duty under this commission, and soon will the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of our Lord Jesus Christ, and he will reign King of nations, as he now does King of saints.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. G. Freeman

B. W. M. Warren

Lewis Cammack

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ASSOCIATIONAL SCHOOL

The committee appointed at the last session, on the Associational School, but their Chairman, made the following report, which is received, and on motion adopted:

We, your committee appointed at the last annual meeting

of your body, to hear suggestions, take subscriptions, &c., for establishing institutions of learning, one for males, and one for females, to be under the control of your body, would beg leave to report, that we have received, as local subscription, the sum of \$5,600.00; one-third due January, 1859, one-third due January, 1860; and the other third due January, 1861, for the establishment of the male institution at Eldorado, Ark.; and we have the assurance of a much larger sum as soon as the establishment of the institution is made certain.

That we have received no general subscription for the male, nor local, or general for the female institution.

We would suggest the continuance of a committee to receive further subscription for the male institution, and also to receive subscription and hear propositions for the female institution.

We also report to your body, that no place is more suitable for the male institution than Eldorado, taking into consideration its centrality as to location, its general good health, good water and pleasant soil. We, therefore, recommend that said male institution be located at Eldorado Union county, Arkansas, and that your body appoint trustees for the building, &c., of said male institution.

John H. Carleton, Chairman

On motion, the committee, to wit: Brethren John H. Carleton, A. L. Hay, John P. Everett, G. W. Scheggin, B. R. Matthews, S. Norman, and John B. Hawkins, who were appointed at the last session of the Association upon the Associational institutions, are continued, with the addition of brother H Ezekiah Bussey.

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS

The committee on Sabbath Schools, by their Chairman, came forward and made report, which on motion is received and adopted, and committee discharged. Said report is as follows, to wit:

Your committee on Sabbath Schools report as follows:
1. There is an increased energy in this Association in this great enterprise. 2. That we recommend the churches of

this Association to go on with unyielding perseverance in this laudable enterprise. 3. We further recommend brethren of this Association to patronize brethren Hay and Thro of Camden, who are prepared to furnish religious books; and a variety of school books.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

G. W. Schoggin, Chairman

On motion, took one hour's recess for dinner.

Monday evening

After one hour's recess for dinner, the Association came together; and after prayer by Eld. T. G. Freeman, proceeded to business.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

The committee on Education came forward and made the following report, which is received, and on motion adopted and committee discharged. The committee on Education submit the following report:

We regard this subject as one in which this Association, in common with all who desire the prevalence of truth and righteousness among men, and the permanent establishment of the Redeemer's Kingdom on earth, is most deeply interested. Next to direct efforts for the spread of the gospel and the conversion of sinners, there is no enterprise in which Christians in this land should more heartily and perseveringly engage, than that which aims at the universal diffusion of intelligence. The development of the intellectual powers, the cultivation of the minds of the masses of the people, enabling them to think and judge for themselves and the wide-spread diffusion of knowledge, are objects dear to Christians in this country, and especially to Christians holding to views which we, as a denomination, entertain; and which, because we believe them to be scriptural, we are anxious to disseminate. We rejoice, therefore, in view of the growing interest manifested in parts of our land, in the establishment and permanent endowment of schools, and colleges, and seminaries of learning of every grade. Such is

stitutions, springing up in our midst, nurtured and sustained by the prayers and liberal contributions of God's people, furnishing ample facilities for the education of our youth and of the rising ministry, are full of cheering promise not only of temporal prosperity, but especially of the type of Christianity, both doctrinal and practical, which shall prevail in the next generation. Therefore,

1. Resolved, That we earnestly recommend to your body to favor the establishment of the Baptist State College, as undertaken by the Convention.

2. Resolved, That we most cordially recommend to your body the care and support of the Baptist Male Institute at Eldorado, and that as far as is consistent with ability and disposition, all the brethren contribute to its establishment and support.

3. Resolved, That we warmly recommend that every member of your body be active and diligent in getting up means to establish a Female Institution between now and the next meeting of this Association.

4. Resolved, That it is the duty of every Christian to promote the cause of education among every class, so that the light of science, like the sun of heaven, may shine on the poor as well as on the rich.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. G. Freeman

J. H. Carleton, Com.

H. Bussey

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

The committee on Temperance came forward and made the following report, which on motion is received and adopted, and committee discharged.

We, your committee on Temperance, would beg leave to make the following report, viz:

That we view intemperance to be one of the sins of our nation, and not of the least dye; and that we as Christians and citizens, should do all in our power to arrest it; that

we consider dram-shops as waits of the devil, and trap-doors for the young to hell. Therefore,

Resolved, That we advise all Christians to desist and refrain from spirituous liquors as a beverage, or the selling of it to a fellow-creature, as we would a deadly poison. In the language of holy writ, "Touch not, taste not, handle not the unclean thing," as a beverage or article of traffic.

B. F. Gray

J. H. Carleton, Com.

E. Cates

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

The committee on Documents came forward, and by their chairman presented their report, which on motion, and a second, is received and adopted, and committee discharged. Said report is as follows, to wit:

We, your committee on Documents, submit the following report: After an examination of all the documents, we find many things of a pleasing nature, and some things that make us sad. Those of a pleasing nature are, that God has revived his work in some of the churches which compose this body, for which we do rejoice.

That which makes sad, is a seeming difference between the Zion Hill and Pleasant Ridge churches, which seems to have arisen in consequence of the Zion Hill church having restored three members that were excluded from a church belonging to the Red River Association, which has induced, we suppose, the following query from the Pleasant Ridge church, found in her letter, as follows: "Is it right to receive persons into the Baptist Church who have been excluded from a sister church, without first being restored into fellowship with the former church?" Both churches request this body to investigate the matter.

We find, also, the Rehoboth, Hopewell No. 1, Spring Hill, Ark., Liberty, and Camden churches, have all petitioned for the next session of the Association to be held with them. The Eldorado church requests the employment of a domestic missionary. We also notice a request from Pleasant Grove church, that the Association assist them to compensate

their pastor for his services, as they are unable to do so.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. P. Everett, Chairman

On motion, adjourned after prayer by bro. John Aaron, until Tuesday morning, 9 o'clock.

Tuesday morning, 9 o'clock.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment, and after singing, and prayer by bro. John P. Everett, proceeded to business. The following was submitted to the Association:

It is with pain and deep regret that this Association has learned that difficulty exists between the Zion Hill and Pleasant Ridge churches; and, after investigation,

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Association, that the Zion Hill Church did wrong in the reception of certain excluded members, to wit: T. J. Watts, Samuel Lindsey, and Daniel Hay, knowing them to be such; and that we recommend that the Zion Hill Church reconsider her act.

After considerable debate upon the foregoing resolution, and investigation of the proceedings of the churches in the premises, on motion the Association took ten minutes recess.

Tuesday evening.

The Association met after ten minutes' recess, and, after prayer by the Moderator, proceeded to business.

The foregoing and last resolution was again taken under consideration, and after a short time adopted by the Association. (This resolution is intended as an answer to the query from the Pleasant Ridge church. For the query, look in the report of the committee on Documents.)

On motion, the following resolutions were adopted, to wit:

1. Resolved, That brethren Hezekiah Bussey, Thomas Ingram, John H. Carleton, and Benjamin R. Matthews be and they are hereby appointed a building committee of the Male Institution at Eldorado, Ark., which is under the control of this body, with power to commence and make all needful steps to locate and build said institution, as soon as the sum of \$10,000 are subscribed.

2. Resolved, That every person who subscribes and pays in \$500.00, shall be entitled to one scholarship for and during the existence of said institution, which said scholarship may be assignable.

3. Resolved, That as soon as said sum of \$10,000 is subscribed, said building committee shall proceed to take the notes of the subscribers, payable at the time of said subscription to them as such committee.

4. Resolved, That said building committee be and they are hereby authorized to procure a teacher, or teachers, as soon as they can get a suitable room.

On motion, bro. Hezekiah Bussey is added to the Executive Board. The Executive Board now consists of brethren Yarbrough, T. Goodwin, J. Melton, O. Lamar, H. Bussey, J. Capers, S. Harrell, and B. R. Matthews.

The next session of this association is appointed to be held with Spring Hill Church, Ark., to commence on Saturday before the 2d Sabbath in September A.D. 1859.

On motion,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association be extended to the brethren of this church, and the friends round about here, for their kindness in entertaining the delegates and visitors at this session.

As the public collection on Sabbath, taken up for the support of a missionary among the Cherokee Indians and for the preaching of the gospel to the black population in our own bounds, was all thrown in at the same time, and it not being certain as to what amount was put in for the black population; therefore,

On motion, the Executive Board are instructed to inquire and ascertain as much of the facts as they can, and to divide said funds accordingly.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

B. R. Matthews, the Treasurer, reports on hand of the	
Home Mission Fund	\$245 36
Indian " "	50
Minute and Associational Fund	7 90

Brethren A. L. Hay and S. Harrell, of the financial committee, being compelled to leave on account of sickness, the funds amounting to \$64 25 for Minutes and associational purposes, and \$12 25 for Home Missions, were handed over to J. W. Hays, the only remaining member of the committee, and to the Treasurer.

RECAPITULATION OF FINANCES

Am't	Home Mission funds on hand	\$245 36
"	" " sent by churches	12 25
"	" " handed Treasurer by	
	a lady	50--\$258 11
"	pledges by churches and individuals to be sent up at the next ses- sion for Home Missions	350 00
		<hr/> \$608 11

Am't for Indian Missions on hand50
" " " " and black popula- tion in our bounds thrown in on Sabbath	\$.86 75
" subscription for Ind. Mis. and black population.	20 00--\$106 7
Dr. By cash sent to R. Holman, of Marion, Ala., to employ a native Cherokee preacher as missionary among his people .	53 8
Balance of the Indian and black population fund, cash	\$.33 38
Subscription	20 00--53 8
Am't of Minute and Associational fund on hand . .	7 90

Am't of Minute and Associational fund sent
 up by churches at this session..64 25 - 72
 Cr. By Am't paid for printing, stitching, and
 postage on these minutes52 00
 Cr. By Am't paid Clerk for his services20 00 - 72

On motion, adjourned to the time and place appointed
 for the next annual session of the Association, which is
 to be at Spring Hill, Ark., in Union co., on Saturday before
 the 2d Sabbath in September, 1859.

S. T. COBB, Mod'r.
 B. R. Matthews, Clerk.

CONSTITUTION

Article 1. The Association shall be composed of members, chosen by different churches in our Union, who, on producing their credentials, shall be entitled to seats.

Article 2. The members thus chosen and convened, shall be known by the name of the "LIBERTY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION," who shall usurp no authority over the Churches in our Union, nor infringe any of their internal rights, but shall merely be considered as an advisory council, in all matters relating to their internal concerns. Nevertheless, it becomes necessary, in some cases, to have a uniform rule of procedure, namely—if one Church commit an offence against another, it shall be the duty of the offended, to labor with the offender for satisfaction; if she fail of success, she shall call to the aid of two or more churches in our Union, to assist in laboring for satisfaction; and if final satisfaction, in the opinion of the helpers thus called, be not obtained, the aggrieved may bring the case before the Association, which shall be taken up and decided upon according to its merits. If a serious difference should arise in an individual church, which upon due labor, cannot be reconciled, she shall call to the aid of two or more sister Churches, to assist in the work, and if a reconciliation be not effected, the helpers called, or the Church may bring the case before the Association, to be acted upon according to its merits; but the Association will take cognizance of no case of the above kind, unless a due course of procedure shall have been previously pursued, according to the economy of the Church.

discipline, found in the 18th chapter of the Gospel by St. Matthew, and other parts of the Scripture, which define the nature of offences and the manner of bringing offenders to trial.

Article 3. The Churches in our Union shall transmit to every Annual Session of the Association, a written communication, specifying the names of the delegates, their number in fellowship, baptized, received by letters, dismissed, excommunicated, restored, and deceased, since the last session, which shall be read and minuted accordingly.

Article 4. Every Church in our Union shall be entitled to representatives in the following manner, viz: Each Church shall be entitled to send three delegates, for the first fifty members or under, and one for every fifty over. Any church failing to represent herself as above perscribed, shall state her reasons at the next session.

Article 5. New Churches may be admitted into our Union by delegates bearing petitionary letters. If upon due examination they be found orderly and orthodox, the Moderator shall manifest their admission by giving their delegates the right hand, in token of Christian fellowship.

Article 6. The Association, when convened, shall be governed by a regular proper decorum, which she is authorized to form and amend, according to her own views.

Article 7. At every session of the Association a Moderator shall be appointed by and from among the delegates present, whose duty it shall be to see that the rules are strictly observed and to take the voice of the Association on all subjects legally introduced. A Clerk shall also be appointed, whose duty it shall be to take proper and correct minutes of the proceedings, and record the same in a well bound book, kept for that purpose.

Article 8. The Association shall have the power to withdraw from the Union any Church that may violate the Constitution, or depart from the orthodox principles of the Gospel.

Article 9. The Association shall furnish the Churches with the Minutes of every session.

Article 10. Every query, sent by a particular church, must be included in here letter, certifying that she endeavored to reconcile it, but failed. In such case, the Association shall take it under consideration, and the voice of the majority shall be considered an advisory answer, which shall be entered on the Minutes.

Article 11. "Queries" which immediately concern the general Union of the Churches, sent by a particular Church or introduced by proper motion, shall be taken up and decided on as soon as practicable.

Article 12. Any Church in our Union having a preacher whom she deems worthy of ordination, shall call a Presbytery of Ministers from sister Churches, to officiate in the work of the Presbyteries in the ordaining of Ministers or Deacons, or in the Constitution of the Church, shall be governed by the Abstract of Faith, adopted by this Association. Nevertheless, where Ministers' aid cannot be obtained, conveniently one Minister may constitute Churches with the assistance of a Deacon, and shall be dissolved by a like Presbytery.

Article 13. The Association shall have a fund supplied by the voluntary contribution of the Churches--and all moneys thus contributed, shall be transmitted from the Churches by their delegates, and handed over to the committee on Finance. This committee shall be appointed annually, whose duty it shall be to receive in charge the Association fund, and dispose of the same agreeable to order, and make, at every session, a fair and circumstantial report of their proceedings.

Article 14. It shall be the duty of the Clerk of the Association to keep a regular file of the printed Minutes of every session of this body.

Article 15. The Association shall not adjourn any session, untils she shall have finished all the business on hand, except in extraordinary cases.

Article 16. The Minutes of this Association shall be read and corrected, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk, before the session rises.

Article 17. In all cases the Association shall be governed by a majority, only when conflicting with the Constitution.

Article 18. Amendments to this Constitution may be made at any session of the Association, when a majority of the members shall deem it necessary.

RULES OF DECORUM.

Art. 1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

Art. 2. A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

Art. 3. The Moderator shall be considered a judge of order, and shall have a discretionary right to call to order.

at any time.

Art. 4. A member, not satisfied with his decision, may appeal to the Association, on the same day, but at no other time.

Art. 5. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet, and, on obtaining permission, proceed.

Art. 6. The Moderator when addressed by a member for permission to speak, shall signify the same by naming the person or otherwise.

Art. 7. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject, or use words of personal reflection.--Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, unless withdrawn by him that made it.

Art. 8. Every case taken up by the Association shall be decided on or withdrawn before another shall be offered.

Art. 9. When a question is taken up, after allowing time for debate, the Moderator shall take the voice of the Association on the subject, and the members on the affirmatives of the question shall signify the same by rising from their seats, or otherwise, and those on the negative shall retain their seats.

Art. 10. The Moderator shall pronounce the decision of the Association.

Art. 11. Any member wishing to retire, shall obtain permission of the Moderator.

Art. 12. No member shall speak more than twice on the same proposition without permission from the Association, nor more than once until every member wishing to speak shall have spoken, nor shall any proposition be made to close the subject until the debates have been carried through.

Art. 13. The appellation of brother shall be used in the Association by members in their addresses one to another.

Art. 14. The names of the members shall be called as often as the Association may direct.

Art. 15. No member shall be tolerated in any practice which tend to interrupt public speaking.

Art. 16. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as any other member; provided, he appoint another to his seat during the time, but shall not vote on any question, unless the Association be equally divided.

Art. 17. Any member violating these Rules shall be reprimanded by the Moderator, at discretion, but only on the day the breach shall have been made.

ABSTRACT OF FAITH.

Art. 1. We believe in one true and living God, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost.

Art. 2. We believe that the Scriptures, composing the Old and New Testaments, are the words of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

Art. 3. We believe in the doctrine of election as founded in the foreknowledge of God, through sanctification of the spirit, unto obedience, and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ.

Art. 4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin by the fall of Adam.

Art. 5. We believe in man's incapacity, but his own free will and ability, to recover himself from the fallen state in which he is by nature.

Art. 6. We believe that sinners are justified, in the sight of God, by the imputed righteousness of Christ only.

Art. 7. We believe that saints shall be preserved in Grace, and never fall finally away.

Art. 8. We believe that Baptism, and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of baptism, and that immersion is the apostolic mode.

Art. 9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and in the general judgment; and that the felicity of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked shall be eternal.

Art. 10. We believe that no minister has any right to administer the ordinance of the gospel but one who is regularly baptized, called and comes under the imposition of the hands of a Presbytery.

Art. 11. We believe that none but regularly baptized members have a right to commune at the Lord's table.

Art. 12. We believe that the Lord's day should be observed as a day of rest and religious devotion.

S T A T I S T I C A L T A B L E

CHURCHES	COUNTY	STATE	DELEGATES	Baptized	Rec'd by Letter	Dismissed	Excluded	Restored	Dead	Total	Con. for minutes & Asso. purposes	Con. for Home Missions	Days of meeting	POST OFFICE
Camden	Ouachita	Ark.	T G Freeman*, A L Hays *, B Warren		17	1	1	1		59	\$5 00	\$		Camden
Ion Hill	"	"	G W Schoggin*, A C Waller, T C Meredith								2 00	5 00		Seminary
Leas't Grove	"	"	B J T Carter, E Mosley		1	4	5			15	2 00		3	Liberty
Leas't Ridge	"	"	Wm Yarborough, G W Hayse, E Rogers		15	1	4	2		62	4 00		1	Buchanan
Salem	Columbia	"	J W Crisp, J B Hawkins, J H Capers	3		3		2		57	3 00		4	Mount Holly
Stioch	Ouachita	"	J G Roe, L D Pierce, B M Carter	4	6	2	1	1		20	2 00			Liberty
Republican	"	"	Solomon Delauter*, D G Delauter	2				1		13	1 00		1	Camden
Tebon	Union	"	James Melton, James Hughes	1	5			1		47	2 00		3	Lisbon
Eldorado	"	"	B F Gray*, J H Carleton, H Bussey	10		2				61	3 00		1	Eldorado
Rehoboth	"	"	N Yarborough, S Harrell#, B R Matthews	22	3	11	2			54	4 25		2	Eldorado
Holly Grove	Claiborne	La.	George Massey	3	1	25	1			23	1 50			Three Creeks
Union	Union	Ark.	John A Meek	6	3	2		2		34	3 00		2	Champagnolle
Opowell (1)	"	"	Wm H Hill, James S Kelly		3	3		6		78	3 00	6 25	2	Three Creeks
Spring Hill	"	"	S T Cobb*, J M Cobb, E Cates, T J Griffin	11	4	7	13	1	2	117	5 00		4	Meeks
Long Creek	"	"	R B Saunders, L Burnside, M M Harris		1	4		1		47	2 00			Hillsborough
Spring Hill	"	La.	J P Everett*, J Moore, H Gathright, M McFadden	9	4	12	6	2		202	5 00			Union X Roads
Galgal	"	Ark.	T Fike, C R Bennett	2	3		1			73	5 00			New London
St. Zion	"	"	James C Barnett			8	2	3	2	28	2 00	5. 00		Wilmington
Opowell (2)	"	"	L Cammack, Martin Johnson	3	2	2		1		32	2 50		3	Union Springs
Liberty	"	"	Lauson Smith#, W. B Summers, J Mason	1	1	2				24	2 50			Hillsborough
Meridian	"	La.	G Masterson, W D Cooper	2	2	3	1	2		33	3 00		1	Union X Roads
St. Olive	"	"	H K Elkins, Wm Davis							10	1 50			Cherry Ridge
				77	71	92	37	5	25	1089				

2 blacks should have been reported, Sept. '56, as excluded, and 1, '57, as dead, from Rehoboth Church.

*Ordained Ministers. #Absent on Monday morning.